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Ta Kung Pao.

CONSTITUTION OF THE RED CROSS SOCIETY OF CHINA

This constitution was passed by the Consultative Conference for the reorganization of the Red Cross Society of China, on 2 August 1950; and approved and promulgated by the Government Administration Council, Central People's government, on 6 September 1950.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

This organization shall be named the Red Cross Society of China.

Article 2

This organization is a people's health and relief group under the leadership of the Central People's government. Its central purpose is "prevention first" in health work, and "mobilization and organization of the people to save themselves and to help others" in relief and welfare work, as well as helping people's governments of all levels, in relation to the people at large, to proclaim and promote epidemic prevention, health, medical care, relief, and welfare.

Article 3

The duties of the organization are to unite the masses, take charge of relief training, propagandize for public health, promote health and epidemic prevention activities, render medical care, carry on disaster relief, provide emergency medical and health work, and, in case of necessity, undertake international relief and medical care upon the approval of the Covernment Administration Council.

Article 4

The emblem of the organization shall be a white flag with a red cross in the centercenter.

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Article 5

The headquarters for this organization shall be located in Peiping.

MEMBERSHIP

Article 6

Anyone who approves the central purpose of this organization and promises to adhere to its constitution, may, upon being introduced by a member, apply for membership and become a member of the local organization.

Article 7

Each member of this organization shall have the right to vote, or be voted for, and to vote on resolutions, make proposals, discuss and criticize proposals and activities of this organization, criticize activities of the staff personnel, and have priority of participating in the organization-sponsored study program, research, relief, and welfare activities.

Article 8

The duties of each member shall be to obey the constitution, carry out resolutions, propagandize for and thoroughly study the central purpose, pay membership dues, and recruit new members.

Article 9

Each member shall be issued a membership card.

Article 10

When a member moves to another locality, he may be admitted to the local organization upon showing his membership card.

Article 11

A member desiring to resign from the organization may make known his intention to the organization concerned and turn in his membership card. \cdot

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ORGANIZATION

Article 12

The supreme organ of this organization shall be the National Delegates Assembly. When the assembly is not in session, the Board of Directors, elected at the assembly, shall assume the responsibility of leadership. Prior to the convocation of the National Delegates Assembly, a consultative conference, held by the representatives of various ministries of the Central People's government, organized people's groups, and former Red Cross directors and staff workers, shall temporarily assume the responsibility of the National Delegates Assembly.

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Article 13

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The organization may have branch offices in each city and haien in accordance with the needs of each locality. Each branch office may also form a sub-branch or a cell. If necessary, an organ representing the headquarters may be set up in each province or autonomous nationality district of each major administrative region. A delegates or plenary assembly shall be the supreme organ in each locality. When such an assembly is not in session, the board of directors of the branch or higher office, or the executive staff of a sub-branch or lower office, elected at the relevant assembly, shall assume the responsibility of leadership.

Article 11:

The delegates assemblies of the headquarters and branch offices shall meet once every 2 years. Those of the sub-branches or cells shall meet once each year. In case of necessity, such meetings may be advanced or postponed.

Article 15

The National Delegates Assembly shall elect 19 to 27 members of the Board of Directors of the headquarters. The directors, in turn, shall organize a standing committee and choose from among their ranks a committee chairman and several deputy chairmen. The Standing Committee shall be responsible for the transaction of routine business. The term of office for directors and committee members shall be 2 years.

Article 16

The chairman, deputy chairmen, and directors of the headquarters shall be elected prior to the convocation of the National Delegates Assembly, and shall be approved by the Government Administration Council.

Article 17

The Board of Directors of the headquarters shall meet once every 6 months. The Standing Committee shall meet once every 3 months. In case of necessity, extraordinary meetings may be held.

Article 18

The Board of Directors of the headquarters shall have a chief secretary and one to three deputy secretaries. Candidates for such offices shall be submitted by the chairman of the Board of Directors and approved at the board meeting.

Article 19

The rules and regulations governing the transaction of business by the headquarters, each branch office, sub-branch, and cell, shall be issued separately.

Article 20

This organization is organized under the principle of the democratic centralization system, whereby, each lower-level organization shall submit a monthly activity report to a superior organization, and the directives from the superior organization shall be conscientiously carried out by the subordinate organization.

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REWARDS AND PENALTIES

Article 21

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Any member who, during the pursuance of his duties, shows excellent achievement or contribution may be appropriately recognized by the relevant organization. Any member who has made an especially large contribution may be reported to the headquarters and may be given a decoration.

Article 22

Any member who violates the constitution of this organization shall be given education, or otherwise dealt with, by the relevant organization.

FINANCES

Article 23

The expenses of the organization are largely met by the membership dues and income from various organization-owned enterprises. If more funds are needed, a request for subsidy may be submitted to the Central People's government or donations asked from the general public.

Article 24

This organization may ask the Central People's government for remission or reduction of taxes on all property owned by this organization, and for materials transported to carry out the organization's work, relief, welfare, etc.

BYLAWS

Article 25

The constitution of this organization shall be in effect after it has passed the National Delegates' Assembly (or the consultative conference, prior to the convocation of the assembly), and approved by the Central People's government. Amendments to the constitution shall follow the same procedure before becoming valid.

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